IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE PCT NATIONAL STAGE APPLICATION OF Art Unit: 1615

HOMMA, ET AL. Examiner: Levy, Neil

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO: PCT/US2003/009441

FILING DATE: MARCH 27, 2003 U.S. APPLICATION NO: 10/509,503

35 USC §371 DATE: September 28, 2004

FOR: METHOD FOR INHIBITING DIFFERENTIATION AND FORMATION OF CONIFEROPHYTA MALE FLOWER BY TREATMENT WITH

PROHEXADIONE COMPOUNDS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER RULE 111(a)

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed December 19, 2006, kindly enter the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Specification – begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims – begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings – N/A

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.